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News Release

Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture
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2010 Milk Production, Milk Cows on Farms, and U.S. January Milk Production

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The annual milk production for Montana during 2010 was 289 million pounds, 3 percent below 2009. Production per cow averaged 20,643 pounds for 2010, 710 pounds above 2009. The average number of milk cows on farms during 2010 was 14,000 head, down 1,000 head from 2009. The number of licensed dairy herds went from 75 in 2009 to 70 in 2010.

The annual production of milk for the United States during 2010 was 193 billion pounds, 1.8 percent above 2009. Revisions to 2009 production increased the annual total 14 million pounds. Revised 2010 production was up 93 million pounds from last month's publication.

Production per cow in the United States averaged 21,149 pounds for 2010, 576 pounds above 2009. The average annual rate of milk production per cow has increased 16.4 percent from 2001.

The average number of milk cows on farms in the United States during 2010 was 9.12 million head, down 0.9 percent from 2009. The average number of milk cows was revised up 2,000 head for 2009.

Milk production in the 23 major States during January totaled 15.2 billion pounds, up 2.7 percent from January 2010. December revised production at 15.0 billion pounds, was up 2.7 percent from December 2009. The December revision represented a decrease of 17 million pounds or 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,813 pounds for January, 29 pounds above January 2010.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.40 million head, 82,000 head more than January 2010, and 14,000 head more than December 2010.

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